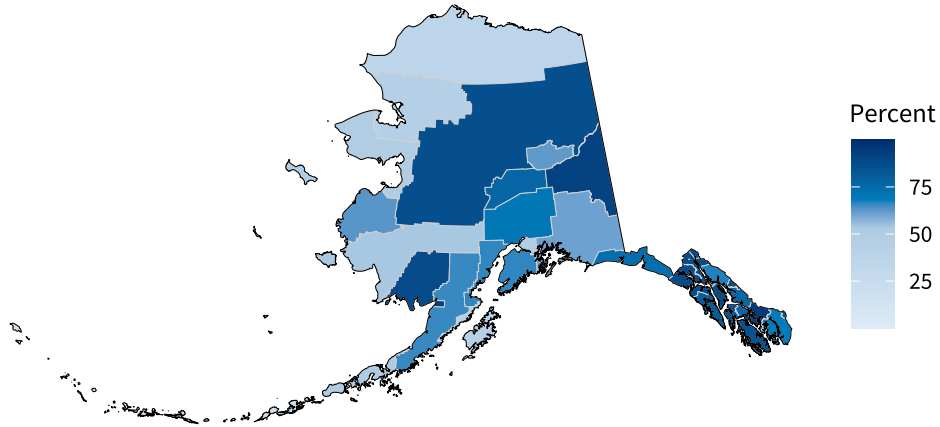


Alaska

74,587 small businesses
99.1 percent of Alaska businesses

138,517 small business employees
52.3 percent of Alaska employees



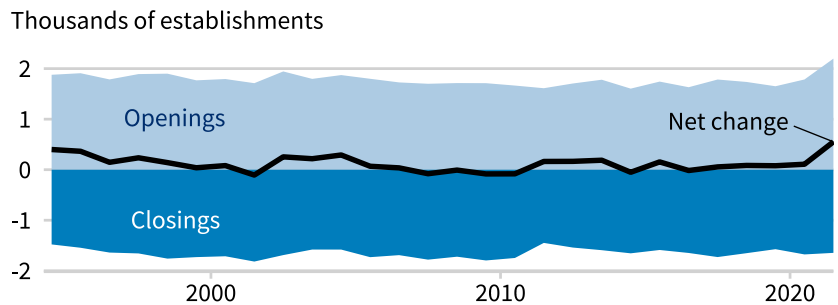
Share of employees working at small businesses by borough or census area

Source of data: [Statistics of US Businesses](#) (Census)

Business dynamics

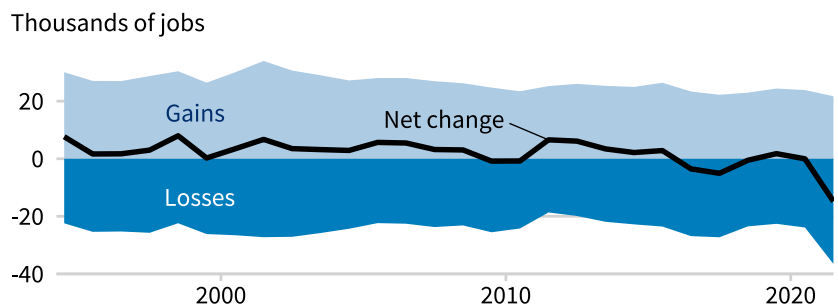
Establishments

Between March 2020 and March 2021, 2,198 Alaska establishments opened and 1,646 closed, for a net increase of 552. Employment expanded at 4,276 establishments and contracted at 5,276. Small businesses accounted for 2,096 establishment openings and 1,534 closings.



Employment

Opening and expanding Alaska establishments added 21,723 jobs, while closing and contracting establishments lost 36,517, for a net decrease of 14,794 jobs. Small businesses gained 18,185 jobs and lost 25,880, for a net decrease of 7,695 jobs.



Counts include temporary closures and reopenings

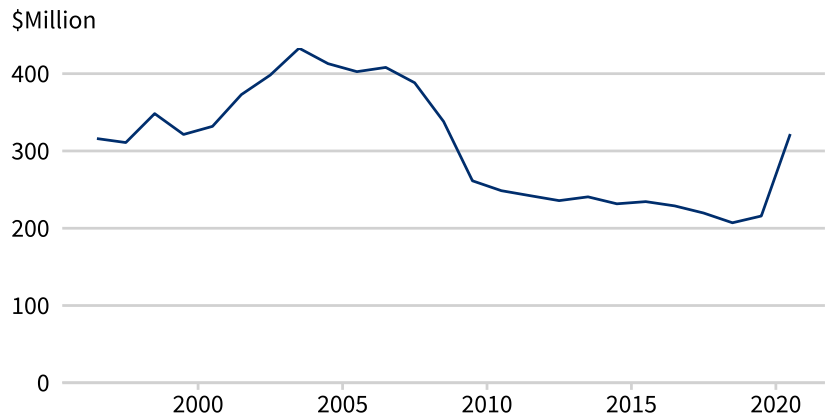
Source: [Business Employment Dynamics](#) (BLS)

Small business loans

The Community Reinvestment Act requires large banks to report new small business loans. In 2020, reporting banks issued \$321.9 million in loans to Alaska businesses with revenues of \$1 million or less. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$100,000 or less was \$311.9 million. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$1 million or less was \$989.8 million.

Source: [CRA Aggregate Data](#) (FFIEC)

New lending to businesses with revenues under \$1 million



Small business count by size and industry

Industry	No employees	1–19 employees	20–499 employees	All small businesses
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	8,555	460	6	9,021
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	7,183	1,476	136	8,795
Construction	4,501	2,284	147	6,932
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	5,608	806	44	6,458
Retail Trade	4,488	1,511	193	6,192
Other Services (except Public Administration)	4,429	1,574	94	6,097
Health Care and Social Assistance	3,590	1,864	269	5,723
Transportation and Warehousing	4,046	733	103	4,882
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	3,839	826	87	4,752
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	3,706	512	45	4,263
Accommodation and Food Services	2,017	1,575	286	3,878
Educational Services	2,030	198	37	2,265
Finance and Insurance	1,343	310	37	1,690
Manufacturing	1,198	403	44	1,645
Wholesale Trade	529	301	100	930
Information	526	139	33	698
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	272	74	25	371
Utilities	36	35	21	92
Management of Companies and Enterprises	*	23	51	74
Industries not classified	*	48	0	48
Total	57,896	15,107	1,584	74,587

* Not reported by the Census Bureau

Sources: [Nonemployer Statistics](#), 2019 (Census); [Statistics of US Businesses](#), 2019 (Census)



Small business exports

A total of 705 identified firms exported goods worth \$4.3 billion from Alaska in 2020. Of those exporters, 498—or 70.6 percent—were small. Exports by small firms reached \$1.7 billion, making up 39.9 percent of exports by identified firms.

Source: [A profile of US importing and exporting companies, 2019-2020](#) (Census)

Business ownership share by demographic group

Women



Women made up 45.5 percent of workers and owned 43.2 percent of businesses.

Veterans



Veterans made up 9.8 percent of workers and owned 11.2 percent of businesses.

Hispanics



Hispanics made up 7.6 percent of workers and owned 4.4 percent of businesses.

Racial minorities



Racial minorities made up 25.8 percent of workers and owned 12.3 percent of businesses.

Ownership shares include equal and majority ownership

Sources of data: [American Community Survey, 2018](#) (Census and IPUMS); [Annual Business Survey, 2018](#) (Census); [Nonemployer Statistics by Demographics, 2018](#) (Census)

Business count by owner demographic group

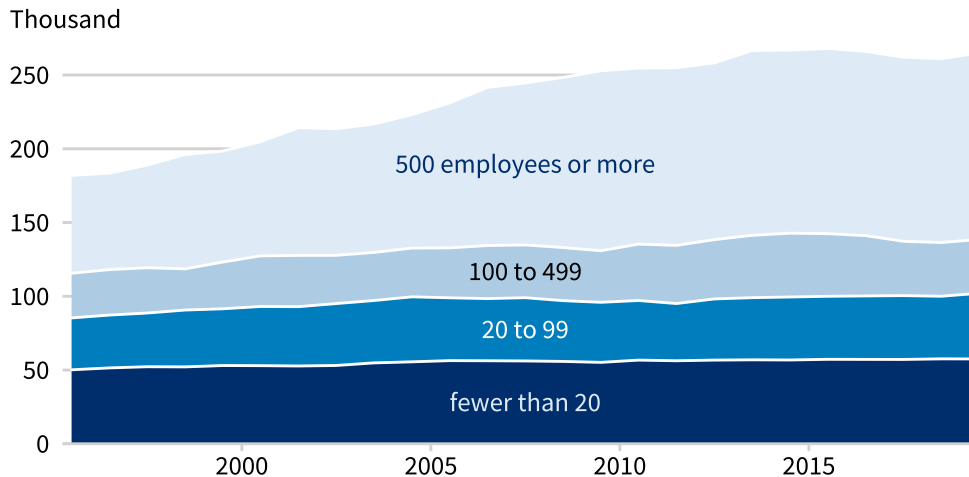
	Without employees	With employees	Total businesses
Ownership			
Female	23,000	3,391	26,391
Male	31,500	8,573	40,073
Owned equally by both groups	1,800	*	*
Veteran	5,800	1,134	6,934
Not Veteran	50,000	12,599	62,599
Owned equally by both groups	450	478	928
Hispanic	2,600	392	2,992
Not Hispanic	54,000	13,755	67,755
Owned equally by both groups	90	*	*
American Indian and Alaska Native	3,500	455	3,955
Asian	2,700	775	3,475
Black or African American	1,300	212	1,512
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	300	22	322
White	49,000	13,035	62,035
Hispanic or Racial Minority	10,000	1,776	11,776
White and Not Hispanic	46,500	12,239	58,739
Owned equally by both groups	200	196	396

* Not reported by the Census Bureau; counts include only businesses classifiable by owner demographic group

Sources: [Annual Business Survey, 2018](#) (Census); [Nonemployer Statistics by Demographics, 2018](#) (Census)

Total Alaska employment by business size

Source of data: [Statistics of US Businesses](#) (Census)



Alaska small business employment grew by 19.8 percent between 1995 and 2019, which exceeded the national small business employment growth rate.

Small business employment and payroll by industry

Industry	Employers		Employees		Payroll (\$1,000s)	
	Small	%	Small	%	Small	%
Construction	2,431	98.7	13,048	81.0	1,142,757	76.5
Health Care and Social Assistance	2,133	97.8	27,840	54.0	1,586,185	48.4
Accommodation and Food Services	1,861	97.9	20,700	76.5	582,272	74.0
Retail Trade	1,704	93.9	13,724	41.0	501,818	43.6
Other Services (except Public Administration)	1,668	97.3	9,157	92.2	342,997	90.8
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,612	93.4	9,716	50.3	732,476	48.3
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	913	92.4	7,732	35.4	363,583	32.1
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	850	95.9	3,577	78.5	176,656	71.1
Transportation and Warehousing	836	92.3	6,928	35.3	459,026	27.4
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	557	98.6	3,378	61.2	98,747	82.8
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	466	99.1	481	93.2	43,463	92.9
Manufacturing	447	93.7	3,923	31.8	242,047	32.3
Wholesale Trade	401	76.5	4,694	54.7	290,705	49.9
Finance and Insurance	347	82.8	3,148	43.3	220,099	37.6
Educational Services	235	94.8	2,761	91.2	77,920	95.6
Information	172	85.6	2,168	33.1	113,875	24.0
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	99	79.8	2,634	25.3	300,475	22.9
Management of Companies and Enterprises	74	59.7	1,106	21.5	87,019	11.7
Utilities	56	93.3	1,771	84.7	179,919	82.7
Industries not classified	48	100.0	31	100.0	1,807	100.0
Total	16,691	96.1	138,517	52.3	7,543,846	45.5

Source: [Statistics of US Businesses](#), 2019 (Census)

About this profile

Small businesses are defined here as firms with fewer than 500 employees. Figures and statistics may incorporate approximations because of missing or problematic data. Data analyzed here largely predate the COVID-19 pandemic, which has had [impacts on businesses](#) that have differed by industry, geography, and demographic group. Electronic versions of this and other [geographic profiles](#) are available online. Visit advocacy.sba.gov for additional resources.